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ACTION EURE-12INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SMS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 SY-05 SYE-00 MCT-02
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3842
INFO AMCONSUL Leningrad
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
FBIS WASHDC

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ATTN: FBIS. PLEASE FILE LATERALLY

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: AF, US, UR, PEPRSUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS ARTICLE ON AMBASSADOR DUBS'
DEATH

1. MARCH 14 EDITION OF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER, "LITERATUR-NAYA GAZETA," CARRIED SCURRILOUS ARTICLE AUTHORED BY LIT GAZ SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK, IONA ANDRONOV. ARTICLE FOLLOWS DRA LINE IN BRANDING THE AMBASSADOR'S MURDERERS AS ANTI-DRA MUSLIM FANATICS. IT CITES A "NEWSWEEK" REPORT THAT "MUSLIM INSURGENTS" TARGETTED AMBASSADOR DUBS IN ORDER TO ATTRACT MAXIMUM PUBLICITY TO THEIR CAUSE. ANDRONOV IMPLIES US NEGLIGENCE IN CLAIMING THAT AMBASSADOR DUBS TURNED DOWN A DRA MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REQUEST TO

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ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS PERSONAL SECURITY AS

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A RESULT, HE MAINTAINS, THERE WERE NO GUARDS PRESENT WHEN THE AMBASSADOR WAS SEIZED. ANDRONOV REPEATS THE DRA VERSION OF THE FINAL MINUTES OF AMBASSADOR DUBS' LIFE, STATING THAT A GUNSHOT FROM INSIDE THE HOTEL ROOM PRECEDED THE ATTEMPT TO OVERPOWER THE KIDNAPPERS. DURING THE ATTACK, HE CONTENDS, THE KIDNAPPERS KILLED AMBASSADOR DUBS AND DIED THEMSELVES.

2. MAJOR PART OF ARTICLE APPEARS AIMED AT DEPICTING THE ANTI-DRA INSURGENTS ALLEGEDLY BEHIND AMBASSADOR DUBS' DEATH AS ACTIVELY SEEKING US ASSISTANCE IN RESTORING THE MONARCHY. IN THIS CONNECTION, ANDRONOV WRITES THAT:

-- DURING THE KIDNAPPING, "NEWSWEEK" REPORTER RON MOREAU "FOUND HIMSELF, AND BY NO MEANS NOT BY CHANCE" AT THE ILLEGAL HIDEOUT OF THE TERRORISTS. BESIDES MOREAU, OTHER US CORRESPONDENTS ALSO MET WITH AFGHAN INSURGENTS OUTSIDE AFGHANISTAN.

-- ON MARCH 4, AN ENVOY OF THE ANTI-DRA INSURGENTS (DESCRIBED AS "BASMACH GANGS") ARRIVED IN THE US AND SUBSEQUENTLY MET WITH SENATORS CHURCH AND JAVITS.

-- ABDULLAH POPAL, AN AFGHAN DIPLOMAT AT THE AFGHAN UN MISSION, IS CITED AS TELLING ANDRONOV THAT NEZRI IS A "CRIMINAL" AND "ADVENTURIST" HIDING BEHIND AFGHAN BORDERS, AND AMONG THOSE WHO ARE ATTEMPTING TO PROVOKE AFGHAN-US DIFFERENCES, SUCH AS THROUGH THE MURDER OF AMBASSADOR DUBS.

-- STATE DEPARTMENT AFGHAN DESK OFFICER LORTON IS QUOTED
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AS TELLING ANDRONOV IN A PHONE CONVERSATION THAT HE HAD MET WITH NEZRI AND LISTENED TO HIM WITH "GREAT INTEREST". LORTON IS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING "WE DO NOT PROVIDE ANSWERS TO SUCH QUESTIONS" WHEN ASKED IF HE DISCUSSED ARMS SUPPLIES WITH NEZRI. TOON

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